



Le Mans Series

Olivier Pla more motivated than ever for the last two rounds!

The driver from Toulouse heads for Hungary and Great Britain with a strong hunger to win with the Quifel-ASM Team Ginetta-Zytek.



An early retirement at Portimao has ended Quifel-ASM Team's hopes of capturing this year's Le Mans Series crown, although the Portuguese team -Miguel Amaral and Olivier Pla - is the reigning champion thanks to two victories and three poles in 2009. The driver from Toulouse hasn't given up yet! The 1,000Km of Spa winner in May has the firm intention of attaining another class victory by the end of the championship. He will try to achieve this aim first in Hungary for the 1,000Km of Hungaroring on August

22 and then in Great Britain for the 1,000Km of Silverstone on September 12.

"I am disappointed, but I want to keep in mind only the positive progress shown at Portimao," says Olivier. "This is the first time that our pace has been so close to HPD [Honda]'s one in the 2010 season, which is the reference in terms of speed. From two seconds at Le Castellet, the gap has narrowed to six tenths of a second in Portugal. Our prototype is excellent on a track which requires high-downforce as we once again demonstrated." Olivier Pla started the 1,000Km of Algarve second on the grid, a position he held through to the end of his double stint. "After a conservative first stint, I pushed harder. I have been able to keep the pace with the HPD for about ten laps before we hit traffic and the HPD made the difference thanks to its top speed. This is something we still have to work on."

The reigning champion of the Le Mans Series LMP2 class is looking for a good result in Budapest. *"Our prime goal has got to be to go for the victory,"* added Olivier. *"We had the potential to win at Portimao and I hope that we still have it in Hungary. Our car performs well, our team does a good job and Miguel is probably the fastest gentleman driver in the field. The layout and the bumpy surface of the circuit will suit the Ginetta-Zytek. We have nothing to lose... The only course of action will be maximum attack!"*



Olivier knows the circuit very well as he raced in the GP2 series. *"I keep bitter sweet memories from racing. After a tough fight with Alexandre Prémat and Nico Rosberg, I was leading the race... but four laps before taking the checkered flag, I had a throttle problem!"*

The Le Mans Series finale is scheduled at Silverstone, on a track that the French driver really likes, as he confirmed: *"The layout is different, but Copse corner and Becketts/Maggots complex are still there. Drivers really enjoy it. The battle will be tough with Strakka Racing, RML and OAK Racing. We clearly have a good chance and we want to be ahead of all of them so we can climb on the first step of the podium."*

Contact Presse :
presse.olivierpla@gmail.com

